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DR. JAMES W. BRIGHT: PROFESSOR HART's remarks seem to call for an outline of the second part of my paper. I cannot, in a few words, say much to the point. The university teacher must be released from college work. We must not confound the two things; a course of English in a university would call for a man to represent a thorough philological knowledge of the language at all periods, and of the literature in its historic relations, but so long as the human mind remains constituted as it now is I do not think that a thorough philologist can at precisely the same time be equally effective as a teacher of literature. Why not have half a dozen men for a great subject like English. Have as many men as you can get to teach well defined divisions of the subject, but I should not advise PROFESSOR HART to represent all these departments at the same time. I have great faith in PROFESSOR HART's powers, but I have not seen the man who could do that. It does not matter what courses are offered, men will come and take what they want. Very little organization will be required and this is secondary in importance to the character of work done.

PROFESSOR J. M. HART: Why not have three or four men? The question resolves itself into one of dollars and cents. The question I should like answered is this, I have twelve hours to teach, four hours I can devote to English, I want to know in what way I can utilize that time, and whether or not it is advisable for me to take bright men and give them a chance to do something more than routine cramming? Whether I am not justified in giving them a chance to study? I do not think that the work will kill me, I do not believe that it will kill them.

THE CHAIRMAN: The subject is one that has interested me for a number of years. In July 1875 I published an article on University organization. I attempted to detail the organization of the German Universities. I also expressed the hope in view of the establishment of the universities of Johns Hopkins and Vanderbilt that the close of the century might see a real American University. We are all glad to know that one of these is in a fair way to become such. The question resolves itself into one of dollars and cents. As soon as we get sufficient endowment for the institutions to develop into universities we can get the men to put into the chairs.—There is a wide distinction between the college and the university course. The great difficulty in this country is that we have not the foundation which the Germans have, we have not the preliminary studies to prepare for the university. The heaven should work from above downwards. If we attempt to establish the university, the college will come up.

PROFESSOR A. MARSHALL ELLIOTT (Johns Hopkins University), should have followed with a contribution on

15. *The Earliest Works on Italian Grammar and Lexicography Published in England**

*Cf. TRANSACTIONS in present volume for the full paper.

but, owing to lack of time, the reading of this communication was omitted, the writer outlining, in a few remarks, the general plan which he had pursued in gathering the material for his paper during several weeks' work in the British Museum library. The object here is to treat the linguistic side exclusively of the earliest contact of Italian and English, reserving the literary side as represented in translations, paraphrases, etc., for some future occasion.

THE SECRETARY: I want to make an apology for not presenting a list of names of those attending this convention. In Baltimore last year such a list was published within four hours after the 'copy' was in. The list for the present convention was sent out yesterday but it has not yet been received; I had hoped to have it ready for distribution at this morning's session; it will be sent to each member of the Association by mail.

A suggestion has come to me that a committee be appointed to consider seriously a change of the time of the year for holding our annual convention. This time of year has some advantages but it has many drawbacks. The members generally want to be with their families during this holiday season; the inclemency of the weather renders it impossible for some to attend our meetings. It has therefore been proposed that a committee take into consideration the advisability of suggesting a different time of the year for holding our annual conference. Some here present may not know how the Christmas holidays came to be selected. Some years ago a letter was sent out to a number of modern language professors asking those who received it if they would like to come together during the holidays and talk over matters with reference to modern language work. I found to my astonishment that thirty or forty professors were willing to meet in New York. We did come together and every man talked as long as he wanted to. We did not settle on anything very definite, but it was decided that when we adjourned, we should meet again during the coming holidays, and so we did, thus continuing our gatherings at this season. I would suggest, Mr. President, that a committee take this matter into consideration. If it does not think it advisable at present to change, let it say so and recommend its continuance as heretofore.

I should have mentioned at the opening of the convention with regard to PRESIDENT LOWELL, that he was unable to be with us. He has been much under the weather since his return from Europe. I have received three letters from him within the last few days, in the last one he expresses deep regrets that he cannot be with us and makes some remarks which I thought it might be interesting to read here.

I thought that these few sentences would be of interest as showing how deeply he is in sympathy with us.

I would move that a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the advisability of changing the time of year at which the annual convention of the Modern Language Association be held.

—Adopted.

The following committee was appointed : PROFESSORS EDWARD S. SHELDON, (Harvard University), C. SPRAGUE SMITH (Cornell University), A. MARSHALL ELLIOTT (Johns Hopkins University), H. C. G. VON JAGEMANN, (Indiana University), ALCÉE FORTIER (Tulane University).

The Association then adjourned to meet at Cincinnati during the holidays of 1888 on such dates as may be determined by the Executive Council.

A goodly number of the Association remained in Philadelphia over Friday night and attended the delightful Social Reception tendered to the Convention by the Penn Club, at their Club House on Locust Street. This opportunity was particularly interesting for the strangers in that they had the pleasure of greeting here many of the leading litterati and scientists of the city whom they had not before met and with whom, owing to the select number of invited guests, they were able to become more closely acquainted than if the company had been larger. The occasion was furthermore a fitting sequel to the intellectual and social pleasures of the conference and the members from a distance left the Club deeply impressed with the sentiment that no other city, perhaps, deserves more richly or is able to bear more appropriately the graceful epithet, City of Brotherly Love.